Channeling out Profits by CIPLA Limited

*86. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CIPLA Limited is channelling out profits through small companies owned by the relatives of the management;

(b) what are the details of these small companies and what are the arrangements between these companies and CIPLA Limited; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in this regard?

TEH MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) to (c) The reports that the Chemical Industrial and Pharmaceutical Laboratories Limited (CIPLA) is channelling out some profits through small scale companies owned by the relatives of the management are being looked into.

Shortage of Drug for Kidney Patients

*88. SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA:

SHRI J. P. GOYAL:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute shortage of life saving drug for kidney patients due to the stoppage of its production by manufacturers in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government considered the question of alternate production arrangements to manufacture the drug under collaboration in the country or to procure the drug from other sources through State Trading Corporation or to allow the patients to import the drug by raising the ceiling of Rs. 2000 prescribed for imports by any individual;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative how Government propose to meet the demand for the drug?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) to (d) Government has received reports about some localised shortages of Azathioprine (Imuran) tablets used by kidney patients.

Imuran tablets were earlier being manufactured in India by M/s. Burroughs Welcome. This Company however, discontinued its production as its manufacture reportedly involved occupational hazards.

On receipt of reports of localised shortage of this drug the authorised stockists were advised to rush stocks to the reported areas of shortages. The authorised stockists have reported that sufficient stocks of Imuran tablets are available with them now. Efforts are also being made to get the drug imported through the Super Bazar, New Delhi.

The current Import Policy provides for liberal import of Imuran tablets under OGL. Individual patients can directly import the drug up to a prescribed value limit. This preparation is also exempted from customs duty.

Delay in installation of Telephone Connections

*89. SHRI M.S. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which actual telephone connections were not given till after one month or more of the grant of necessary sanctions; and

(b) whether any guidelines have been issued in this regard?